

ARLINGTON FINANCE COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
O'NEAL ROOM  
3/23/15

ATTENDEES:

Deyst*	White	Caccavaro*	Kellar*	McKenna*
DeCoursey*	Wallach*	Simmons*	Gibian*	
Tosti*	Foskett*	Bayer*	Duvadie*	
Kardon*	Beck*	Jones*	Deshler	
Franclemont	Howard*	Fanning*	Carman*	Turkall*

VISITORS: Superintendent Katleen Bodie, Assistant Superintendant Laura Chesson, CFO Diane Johnson, School Committee Members: Chair Bill Hayner, CindyStarks, Judson Pierce, Jennifer Susse; Sean Harrington

MINUTES of 3/18 approved as corrected. Unanimous

BUD 20 EDUCATION- Bodie introduced her staff & the School Committee members present. Using a handout, Ref 1, she described the open process by which the budget was prepared. She described the plans for renovating Stratton, resubmitting AHS to the MSBA for funding, the enrollment growth (169), and the possibility of losing kindergarten & METCO funds. The good news is that the schools are under budget and she hopes to transfer \$200k to \$300k into the SPED Stabilization Fund. She & Johnson discussed the difficulty they have in predicting enrollment. Bodie cautioned that none of the tables & charts show the effect of the COLAs now being negotiated. The money to cover this cost is being held in the administration budget. Johnson explained how the gap between the \$53.4m Town appropriation and the desired \$59.4m budget will be closed. Chesson reviewed the APS plans to meet the Common Core technology goals. Johnson reviewed SPED & Intervention funding.

Members asked many questions. The bulk of these questions concerned the extent to which SPED funding is being used for Gen Ed. Responses stayed close to the statements in the presentation. In response to questions about enrollment, Bodie & Johnson stated that there are also hard-to-predict size changes going into middle school & high school. Other districts inside 128 have seen similar increases. Bodie discussed the difficulty in balancing class sizes using the buffer zones. Members requested that actual revolving fund revenues be included.

Johnson agreed that SPED costs are not consolidated. She thinks it is more important that SPED costs be included in the costs for the schools where those costs were incurred. Members congratulated Bodie & staff on the clarity & detail of the budget book.

COMMITTEE: The Chair urged the 7 members who have not completed conflict of interest training to do so soon.

RESERVE FUND: \$715,005

Peter Howard 3/24/15 Revised 3/25/15

Ref 1 APS, FY16 Budget, A Presentation to the FinCom

# ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## FY 2016 Budget

### A Presentation To

### The Arlington Finance Committee

### March 23, 2015

# AGENDA

- School Committee Members
- Budget Development Process & Timeline
- FY15 Year-to-Date and 9C cuts
  - Enrollment
- Major Discussion Points FY16
- Into the Future
  - Technology Plan
  - Interventions and Special Education
  - Maintenance Consolidation

# ARLINGTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE

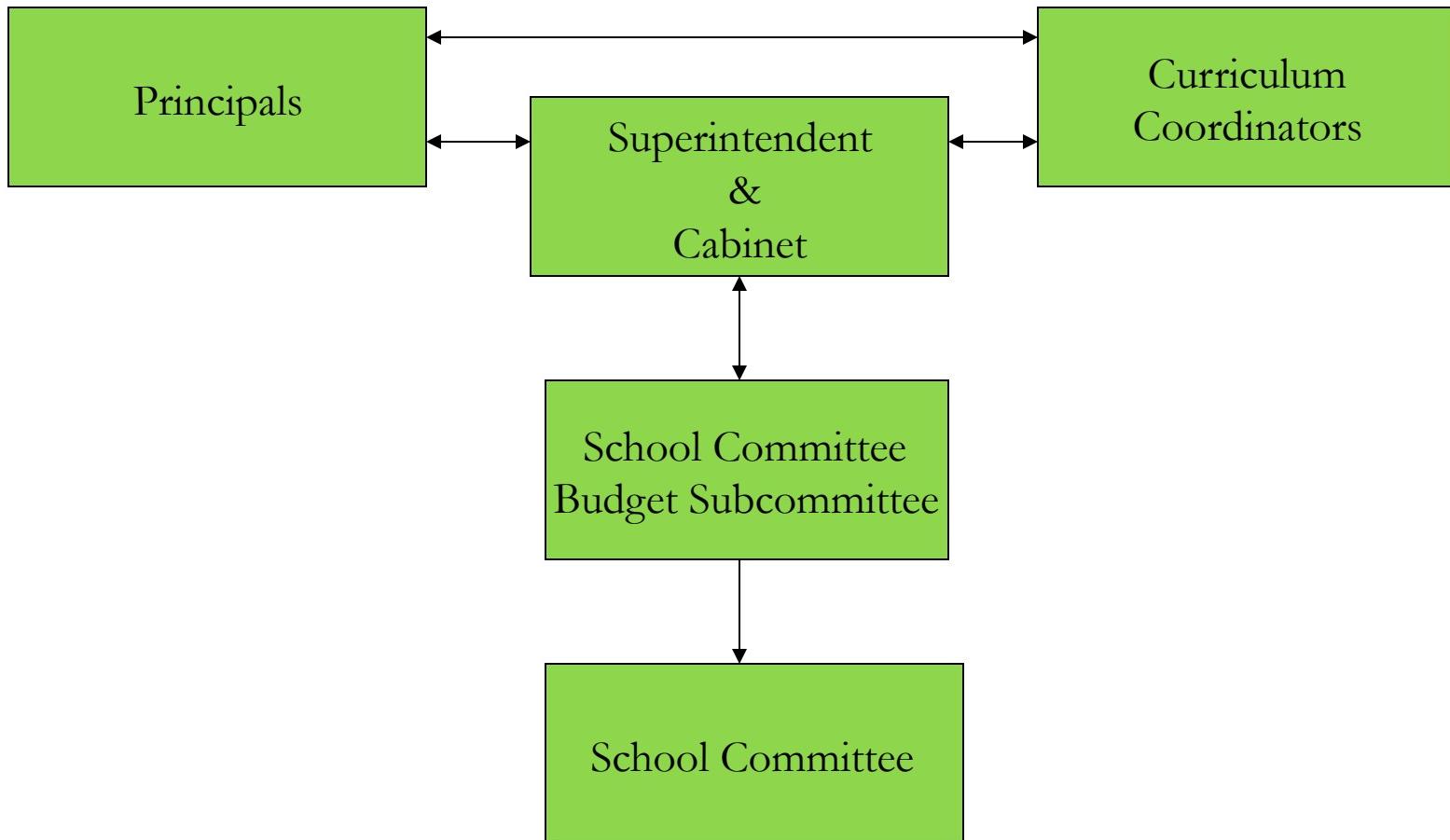
- William Hayner, *Chair*
- Jeff Thielman, *Vice - Chair*
- Kirsi C. Allison-Ampe\*, *Secretary*
- Cindy Starks\*, *Budget Chair*
- Judson L. Pierce
- Paul Schlichtman
- Jennifer Susse\*

\*Budget Subcommittee Member

# APS BUDGET DEVELOPMENT TIMELINE

- Spring – Establishment of SC Budget Subcommittee
- Summer through Winter – Administrative team meets
- Fall through Winter – Ongoing meetings between Cabinet & School Committee Budget Subcommittee help shape Superintendent's Budget
- February 12 – Superintendent's Proposed Budget presented to School Committee
- February 26 – Public hearing by School Committee
- March 12 – Second public hearing by School Committee, School Committee revises & approves School Committee Budget
- March 23 – Finance Committee hearing
- May – Arlington Public Schools Budget presented to Town Meeting with endorsement of Finance Committee

# APS BUDGET DEVELOPMENT PROCESS



# ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS PARTICIPANTS IN BUDGET DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

**Principals** Kristin DeFrancisco, Hardy  
Thad Dingman, Dallin

Karen Donato, Thompson

Michael Hanna, Stratton

Karen Hartley, Peirce

Matthew Janger, Arlington High

Mark McAneny, Bishop

Timothy Ruggere, Ottoson

Stephanie Zerchykov, Brackett

Kathleen Bodie, Superintendent

Laura Chesson, Assistant Superintendent

Diane Johnson, Chief Financial Officer

Alison Elmer, Director of Special Education

Rob Spiegel, Human Resources Officer

# PARTICIPANTS IN BUDGET DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

## Curriculum Coordinators

David Ardito – Visual Arts  
Cindy Bouvier – Health &  
Wellness

Carla Bruzzese – English  
Language Learners

Matthew Coleman -  
Mathematics

Melanie Konstandakis – Interim  
Social Studies

Deb Perry – English Language  
Arts

Catherine Ritz – World  
Languages

Pasquale Tassone – Performing  
Arts

Larry Weathers – Science

## Technology

David Good – Chief Technology  
Officer

## Budget Production Contributors

Claudia Bertoli – Webmaster  
Julie Dunn – Grant Writer/  
Coordinator-Title I Director

Neile Emond – Purchasing  
Olivia Fournier – School  
Accountant

Rick Iannelli – Transportation  
Diane Johnson – CFO  
Julia McLaughlin – Payroll

# FY 15 YEAR TO DATE RESULTS

- Stratton School feasibility study completed. Pending approval of funding from Town Meeting, construction will begin in June 2016 for completion by August 2017.
- High School not accepted into FY14 MSBA construction pool. SOI will be submitted again this year.
- Summer enrollment growth in excess of projection led to necessary increase in staffing beyond budget.
- Midyear 9C cuts to Kindergarten (\$50,460) and METCO (\$26,331) grants will also be covered.
- Special Education out-of-district tuition is currently running under budget. Presently expecting to ask for \$200,000 to \$300,000 to be moved by Town Meeting into Special Education stabilization account.

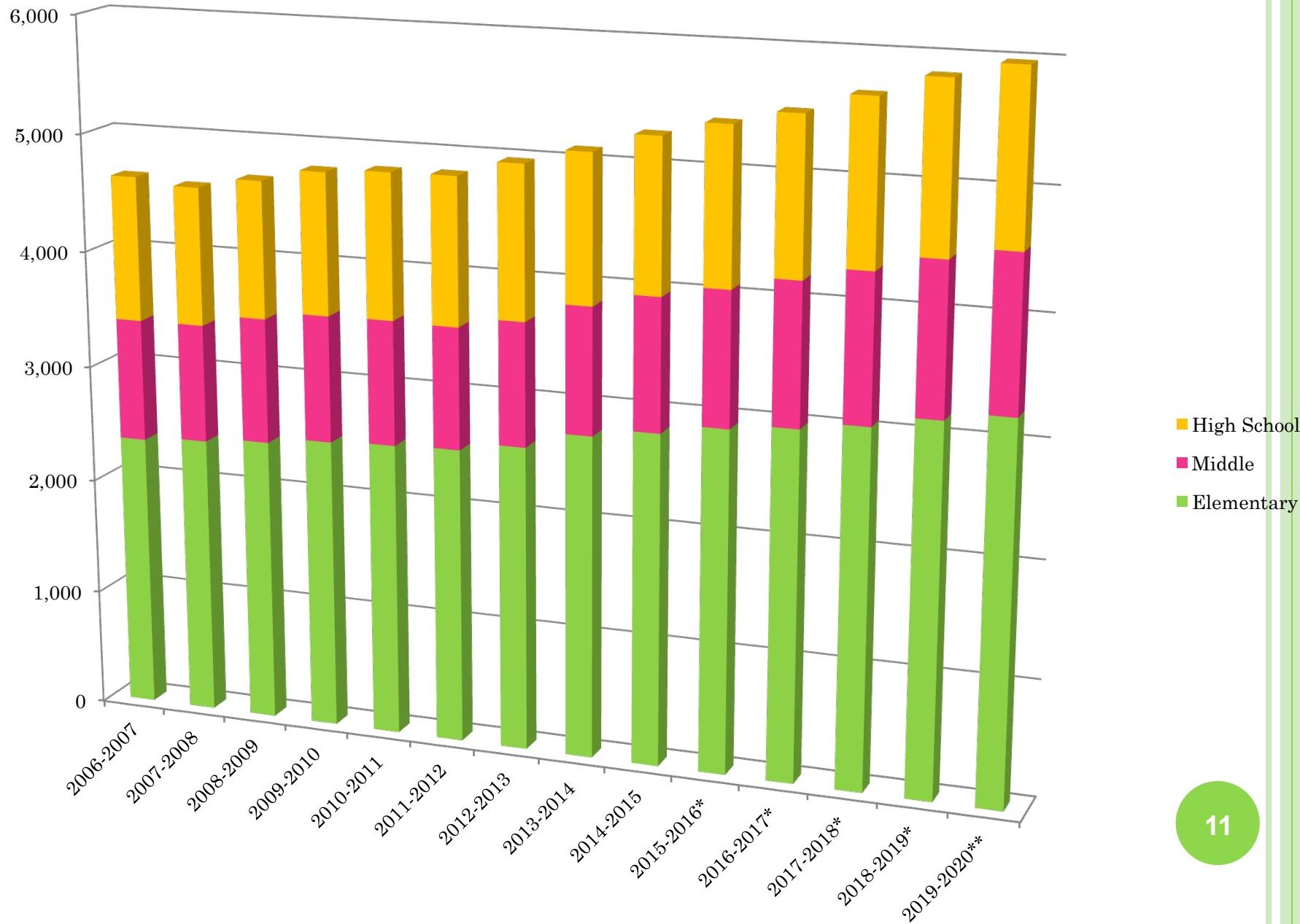
# FY 15 YEAR TO DATE RESULTS: FOCUS ON ENROLLMENT

- Enrollment has been increasing nearly 3% each year since FY13. This translates into 450 new students. Total enrollment for FY15 is 5,326.
- In FY14 projections had been for 81 new students for FY15. Instead, we added 169.
- Additional summer hiring became necessary to maintain acceptable class sizes, provide sufficient “specials” and meet the needs for scheduling at the secondary level.
- If enrollment trends continue as projected, APS will reach 6,000 in FY20.
- Proposals for a space needs study, including a separate enrollment projection, are currently being analyzed.

## Births 5-years previous to date (Incoming Kindergarteners)



# Historical and Projected\* Enrollment



# ENROLLMENT GROWTH & FISCAL RESPONSE

- Gratitude to Town of Arlington for **Enrollment Factor** for APS in Town Appropriation
  - Enrollment growth greater than projected when 5 year plan approved
  - 450 new students in last three years
  - Pressure on class sizes
  - 25% of per pupil cost for each additional enrollment from prior year

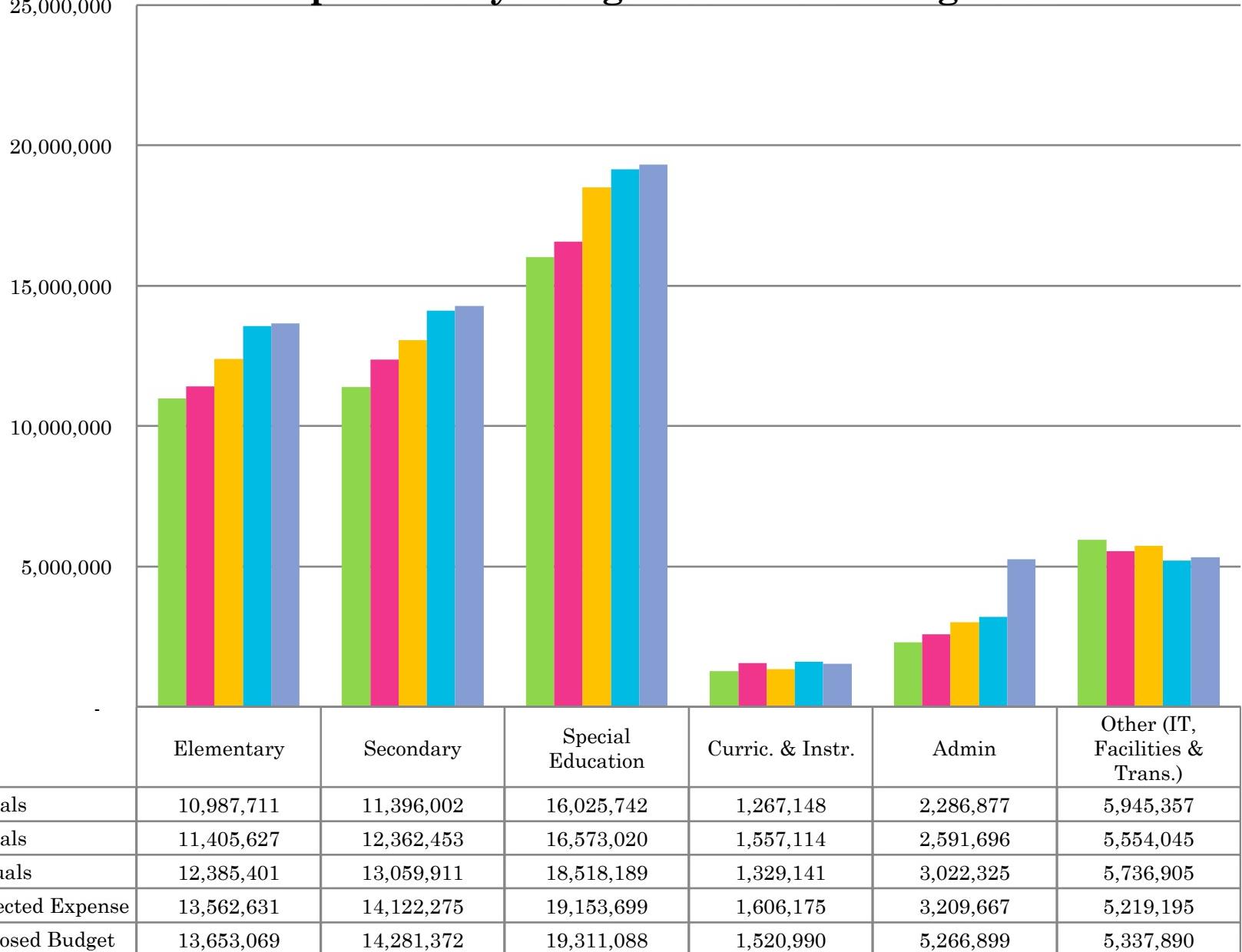
# VISION FOR THE ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

- Every APS graduate will be ready for college, career and active citizenship
- APS will build staff capacity, fostering continuous improvement
- APS will provide a cost effective education supporting optimal teaching and learning
- In partnership with all town departments, APS will engage in effective collaboration and communication with all stakeholders

# FY16 BUDGET PRIORITIES

- Successfully conclude negotiations with teachers and other unions.
- Reduce class sizes in “specials” at Ottoson Middle School.
- Add a High School teacher to respond to class size and student course selections.
- Eight reserve teaching positions to respond to enrollment growth K-12.
- Previously grant funded social workers continued within operating budget.
- Increase of one Psychologist position to full time, and the addition of a Speech and Language assistant to support caseloads in Special Education.
- Increase Teaching Assistant salaries to \$17,000 (3.3% increase).
- Continue to implement the Technology Plan.
- Planning for Maintenance Department consolidation in FY17.
- New information since proposed budget document:
  - Possible loss of Kindergarten Grant \$228,789
  - English Language Learner mandates from state

## Five Year Comparison by Budget Transfer Categories



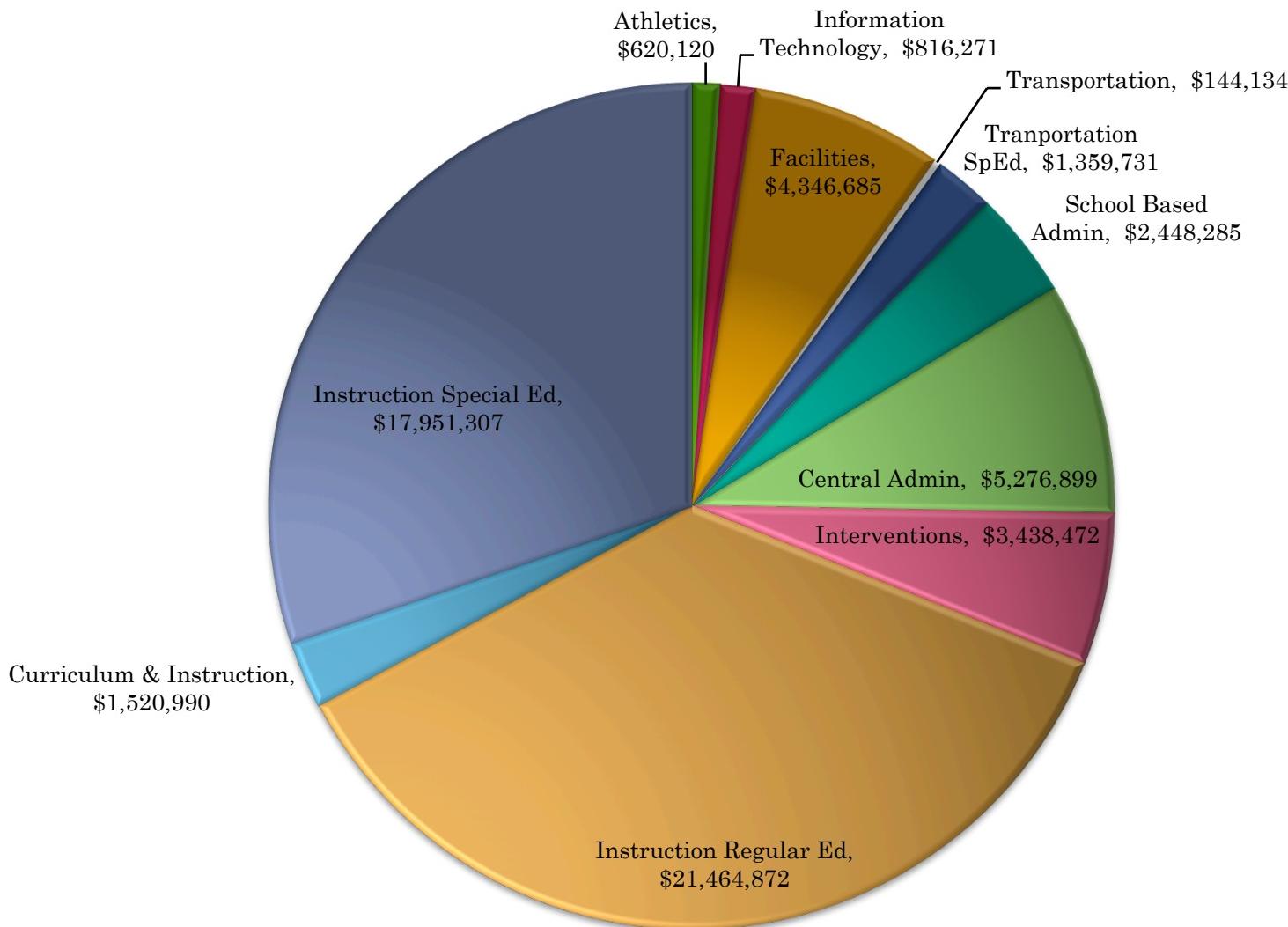
# SUMMARY OF FY16 PROPOSED BUDGET CHANGES

- Net increase in Revenue \$2,945,649
- Total Mandatory Increases \$2,656.091
- Total Proposed Increases \$1,002,851
- Total Proposed Restructuring (\$713,293)
- Increases less Restructuring \$2,945,649

For greater detail visit: FY16 Superintendent's Proposed Budget  
Section 2 Superintendent's Budget Message

# FY16 Proposed Budget Expense by Major Category

## Total Budget \$59,387,766

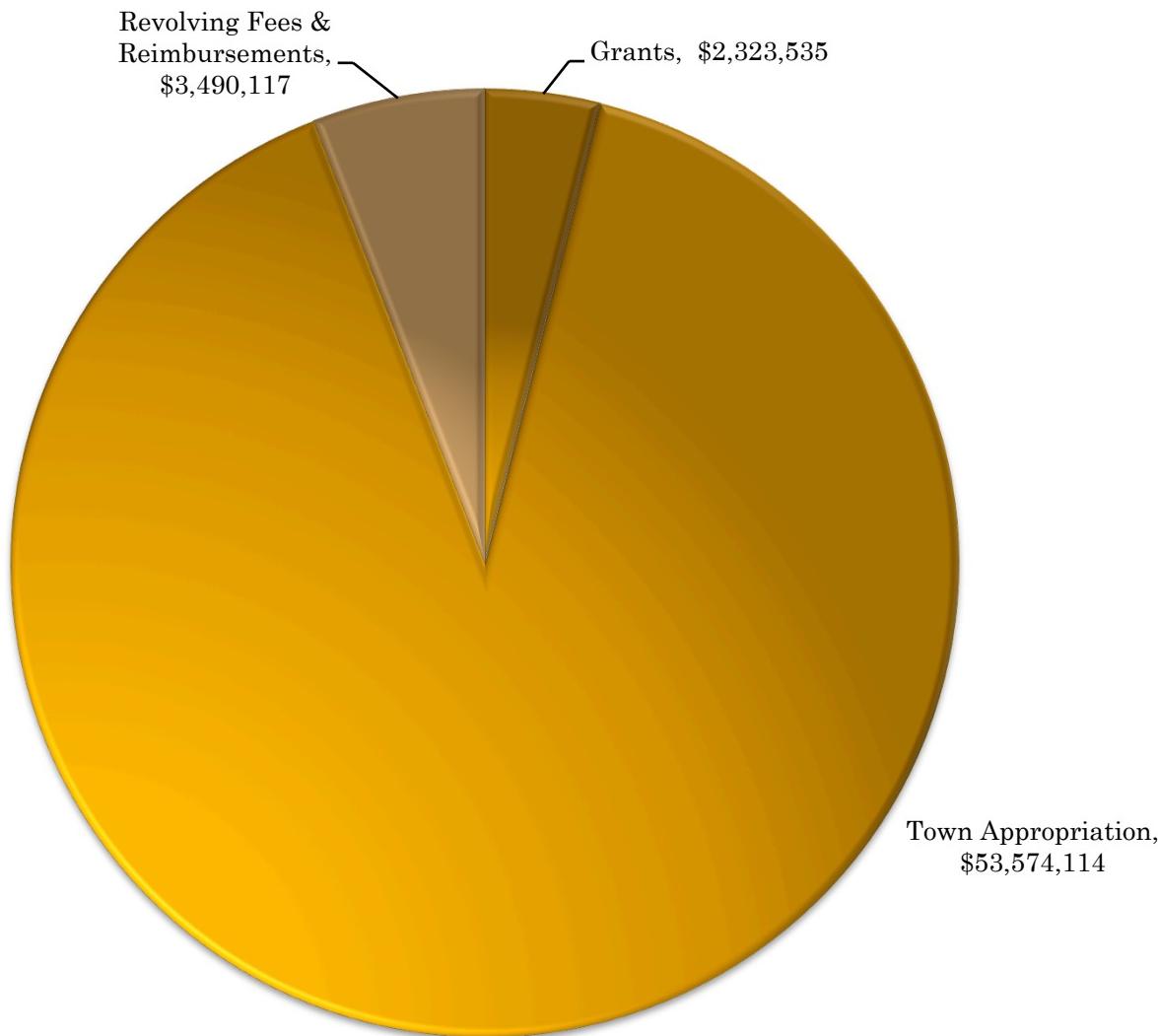


# FUNDING THE VISION

- FY16 revenues of \$59,387,766
  - up 5.2%, or \$2,945,649
    - 3.5% growth in General Education
    - 7% growth in Special Education
    - Level fund Kindergarten Fee offset
    - Enrollment Factor
- Key drivers
  - Town appropriation increase of \$2,844,146
  - Grants projected to decline \$193,529 (before elimination of Kindergarten grant proposed by Governor Baker)
  - Fees & reimbursements projected to increase \$325,258
  - FY15 Circuit Breaker payment of \$1,961,263 to be used in FY16

## FY16 Proposed Budget Funding Summary

### Total Funding \$59,387,766



# TECHNOLOGY PLAN OVERARCHING VISION

It is our overall goal to provide students with an educational experience that enables them to:

- Work independently and collaboratively
- Analyze and synthesize multiple forms of evidence
- Use evidence to create robust arguments
- Present those arguments in oral, written, and digital form

# Context for the Plan

- Recent investments in technology
- Use pilot-evaluate-expand model
- Need for professional development
- Need for technical support
- Technology during instruction and in support of instruction
- Security paramount
  - Students
  - Student data
  - Hardware

## BASIS FOR OUR FRAMEWORK

- Substitution Augmentation Modification Redefinition (SAMR) Model
- <https://www.commonsemmedia.org/videos/introduction-to-the-samr-model>

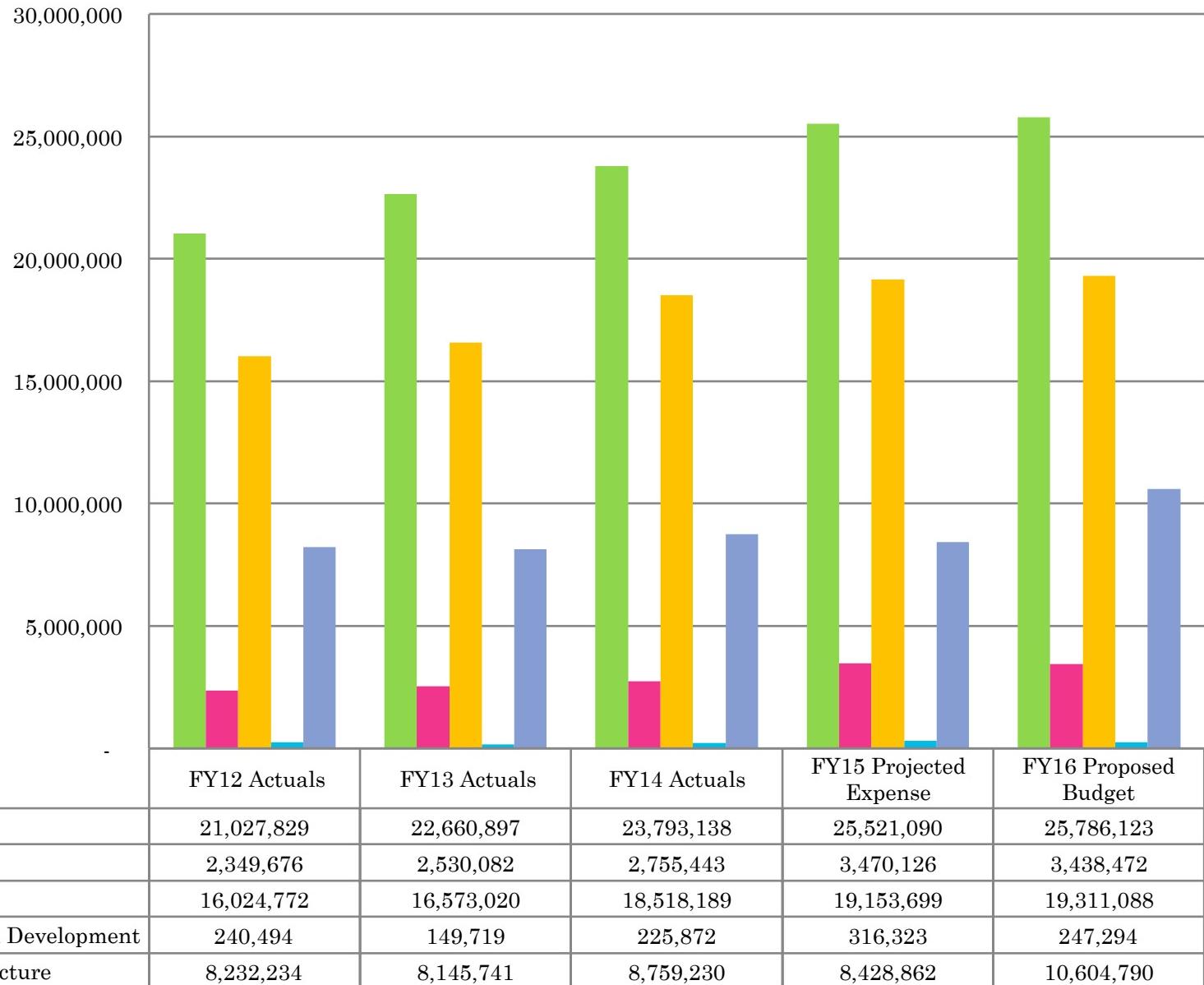
# TECHNOLOGY PRIORITIES FOR 2015 -2016

- Replacement of assistive technology for special education students as 90% of student assistive technology is five years or older.
- Replacement of portion of student devices at OMS and AHS as 80% of student devices are five years or older; operating systems no longer supported. Increased expertise in technology critical to meet demands of Common Core.
- Additional carts for Dallin and Brackett so that larger elementary schools will have equity with smaller elementary schools. High level of familiarity with technology critical due to increased use of online assessments and demands of Common Core.
- Need to protect Thompson investment by beginning four year replacement cycle in FY17. One-quarter of devices to be replaced each year. Working older devices recycled to lower level grades where less functionality is not as much of an issue.

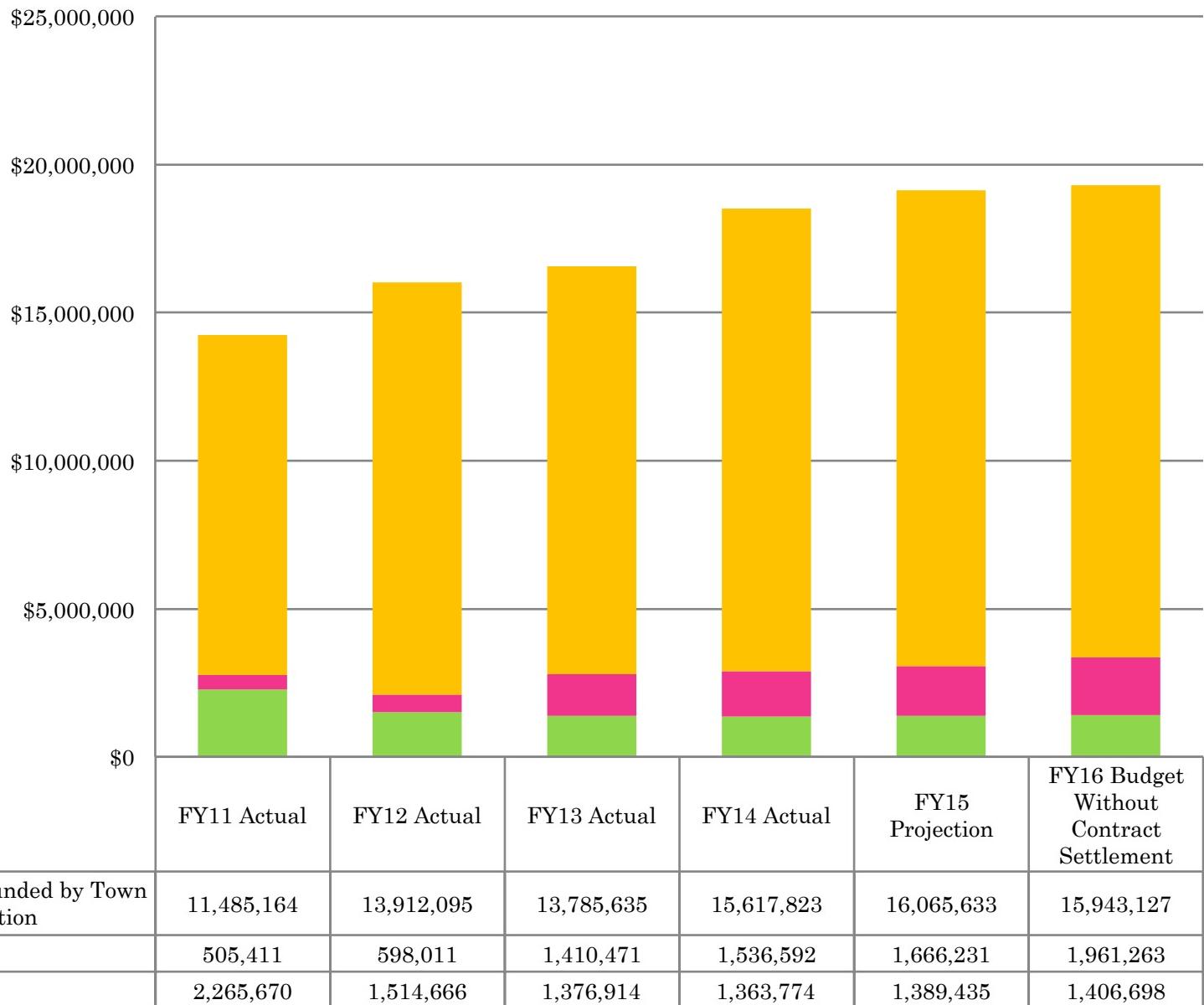
# ARLINGTON SPECIAL EDUCATION AND INTERVENTIONS

- Definition of Special Education costs in Arlington
  - Includes Special Education Grant funded costs, Legal and Transportation costs when directly supporting Special Education students
- Definition of Interventions in Arlington
  - Includes Math and Literacy RTI, Academic Challenge & Enrichment, Guidance
  - Supports both General Education and Special Education students
- Why are both Special Education and Interventions necessary?
  - Special Education legally mandated for eligible students
  - Interventions reach students who are struggling but not necessarily eligible for Special Education services
- **English Language Learners (ELL) services transitioning from state recommendations to state mandates**

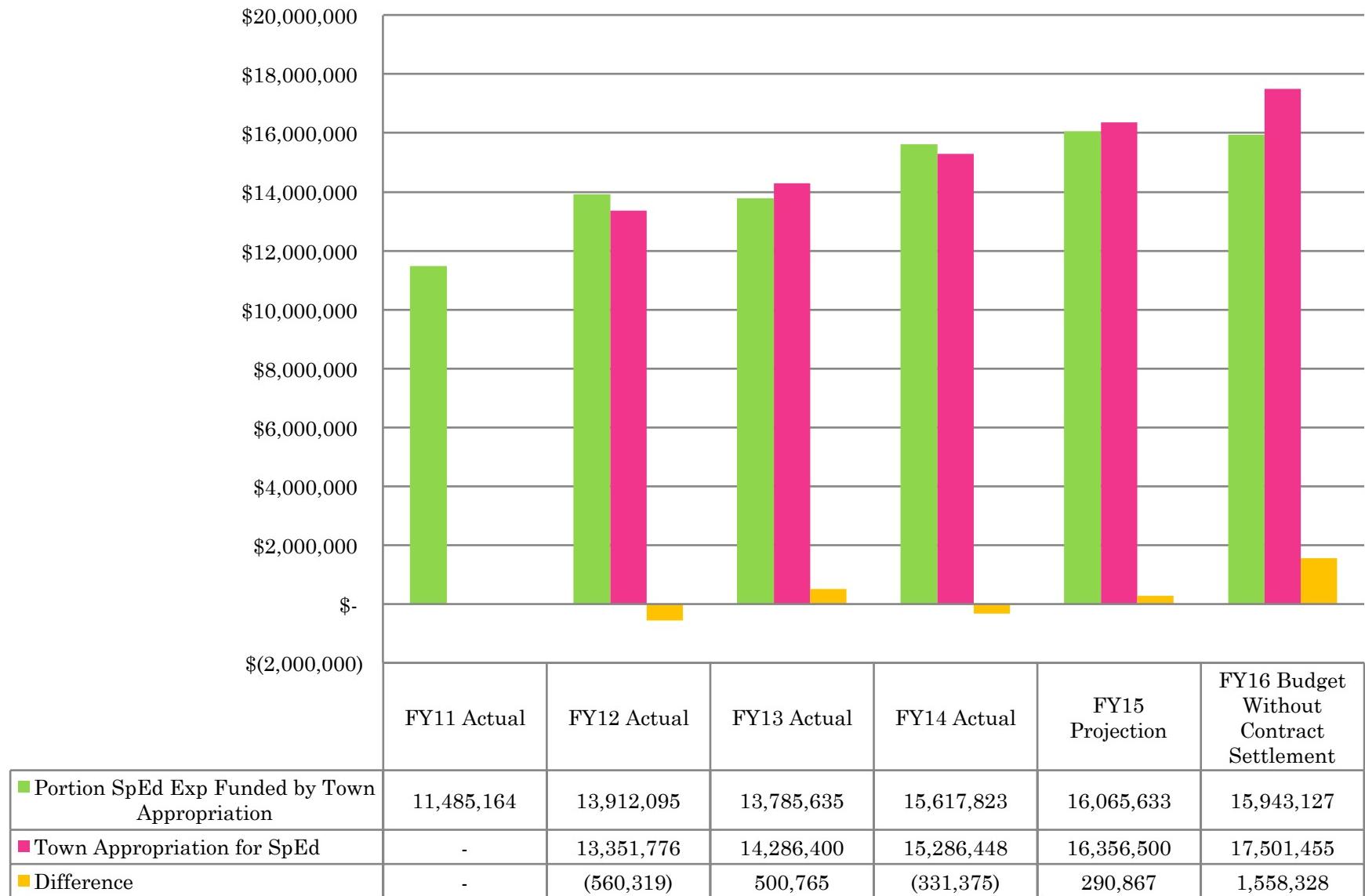
## Five Year Comparison Showing Interventions Expense



## Special Education Expense by Funding Source



## Town Appropriation Used for SpEd Compared to Town Appropriation Allocated for SpEd



# DEVELOPMENT OF CONSOLIDATED MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT

- Ongoing Maintenance Committee has recommended restructuring of all custodial and maintenance activity as a new town department.
- Consolidated Maintenance Department will have a director, deputy director and administrative support to support all facilities related activity in both town and schools.
- Combined department will be primarily focused on the long term care and preservation of all town and school buildings.
- Town budget consolidated in FY16, school funds move in the following year.

## ACTION REQUESTED

- The Arlington School Committee respectfully requests your approval of the FY16 Budget voted by School Committee on March 12, 2015